



COUNTY OF ERIE

BOARD OF HEALTH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., *Chair*
Timothy Pelkowski, M.D.
Carla Picardo, M.D.
Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D.
Timothy Zieziula, J.D.

Erie County Board of Health

Monday, January 30, 2023

Erie County Department of Health - 2nd Floor Conference Room

606 West 2nd Street, Erie, PA 16507

5:00 pm

Present:

Richard A. Ortoski, DO, Chair

Carla Picardo, MD, MPH - via Zoom

Timothy Zieziula, JD

Absent:

Bishop Clifton McNair, III - no contact

Mary Jean Taylor, PhD - contacted the board ahead of time

Also In Attendance:

Breanna Adams

Nicole Bolash

Mark Matlock

Erin Mrenak

Amy Machinski

Steve Oros

Tony Snow, M.D. - via Zoom

Ellen Schauerman - via Zoom

- I. **Call to Order** - Dr. Ortoski, Board Chairperson, called a meeting of the Board of Health to order at 5:05 p.m.
- II. **Public Comments** - None
- III. **Presentations** - None
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - The Board of Health meeting minutes and division reports from November 7, 2022 were approved on a motion from Tim Zieziula, JD and seconded by Dr. Ortoski and Dr. Picardo. All in favor.
- V. **Board Updates**
 - a. **Division Reports** - *Formal Written Reports Provided in Advance of Board Meeting*
 1. Erin explained the future of the health department (building) while working with County Administration to see where we are at with our current building's condition or move into a new building. Had an architect propose a reconfiguration of the current building to add new office space and parking. Will need to discuss with County Administration on how to move forward. Employees working at the Modern Tool Building will soon



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transfer over to 606 W. 2nd St. location. Lease issues from being overcharged for square footage. Have until April that will make up the difference in charges.

VI. **Director's Report - Erin Mrenak**

- a. PADOH has a new secretary of health, Dr. Debra Bogen. Meetings with PADOH currently on hold until positions are filled.
- b. Nicole Bolash is our new Deputy Director.
- c. CDC state infrastructure awarded us \$2.4m in a lump sum. Will have to report on spending.
- d. Will start STD clinics very soon.
- e. Reconfigure the division reports--use a template? Ask questions in advance for answering to excuse the director's attendance. Dr. Ortoski would prefer a verbal summary of the division reports rather than writing it all out on paper. Erin will brief on each divisions report in a few sentences.

VII. **Financial Report - Mark Matlock**

- a. Act 315 report shows trends that every 3 years it increases and resets. Covid money is a one-time thing and the new infrastructure money will only last 5 years as of now. Future funding will be split more ways, so it is unlikely funding will increase. If Act 315 funding does not increase, the county will have make up for the difference. More funding opportunities are offered via NACHHO and other entities rather than through the state.

VIII. **Old Business - Attendance**

- a. Bishop Clifton McNair has only attended one meeting in the past two years. The Board needs an active member. The board drafted a resignation letter to be sent out. His term does expire at the end this year. He would still be able to attend board meetings as a public member. Tim Zieziula, JD motioned and Dr. Picardo seconded. All in favor.
- b. Dr. Tim Pelkowski could replace Bishop McNair. He was already vetted by county council. Dr. Laura Lewis could come back on the board if MJ does not wish to stay on. Dr. Ortoski would send a letter to see if she is interested and take to county administration for approval.

IX. **New Business**

a. **Annual Officer Elections**

1. Dr. Ortoski staying as chair. Tim Zieziula, JD motioned. Dr. Picardo seconded.
2. Dr. Picardo staying vice chair as motioned by Tim Zieziula, JD. Dr. Ortoski seconded.

b. **Strategic Plan**

1. Erin discussed the 4-year Strategic Plan that was handed out at the meeting.

c. **Attendance**

1. Dr. Ortoski brought up that LECOM Health mentioned how well the ECDH Director is to work with.
2. Char Berringer sent the Board of Health a thank you card.



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- X. **Adjournment** -The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 p.m. on a motion by Tim Zieziula, JD and seconded by Dr. Picardo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Oros, Recording Secretary